

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An illumination optical system includes a light source which emits light, and a light separation/integration device having a diffraction device on at least one incident side. The diffraction device diffracts light to decrease an incident angle to a predetermined range. An image display apparatus includes the illumination optical system, an image optical system which modulates light incident from the illumination optical system to form an image, and a projection optical system which projects the light reflected from the image optical system onto a screen.